

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 38 December 2nd 2019

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

Searching for excellence is a mantra used by most educators; as parents and teachers we take seriously our roles as being influencers of others. We want others to both share in the particular love of learning and life that we currently experience, and we hope to ensure those for whom we have responsibility avoid some of the challenges that may have compromised our positive search for excellence.

After experiencing dismal results from what they considered the application of 'best pedagogical theories' to a two-year reading program, two American educationalists, Gallimore and Tharp, searched for the 'greatest' or 'best' teacher that they could find. After significant research and discernment, they decided to study John Wooden, an extremely successful basketball coach, and their analysis and conclusions were then applied to the reading program with pleasing success - what attributes did Wooden display that then brought about student excellence that was not apparent in the 'best pedagogical theories'?

Wooden, an unassuming quietly spoken person, permitted the two educationalists to record his coaching and 2326 discrete acts of teaching were observed. A summary of these observations highlighted by Wooden:

- Providing compliments only 6.9% of the time.
- Expressing displeasure only 6.6% of the time.
- Communicating pure information about what to do, how to do it and when to do it 75% of the time.
- Conducting intense, highly structured explicit five to 15 minute drills, during which time there were minimal stoppages and when he did, he rarely spoke longer than 20 seconds.

What Wooden was doing was providing immediate feedback that was concise, explicit and unambiguously accurate; modelling the right skill; correcting if required; remodelling. There are many dimensions that teachers contend with that Wooden did not have to factor-in to his coaching regime, however, his philosophy complements 'cognitive load theory' in that sharply focused explicit teaching and the careful use of formative assessment enhances opportunities for learning and, consequently, excellence. Students are, temperamentally, at various levels of being able to display self-control, be self-directed, self-regulate and self-manage their learning, and the irrefutable fact is that no-one can learn **for** someone else - it is when the student engages in the learning process that has been

carefully crafted by a teacher who is striving for excellence, that we, as parents and teachers, can find delight, because it is the love of learning, coupled with a realisation that there is a responsibility for being intrinsically motivated, that the excellence becomes less about competition and more about complementing a life that is richly satisfying. A timely reminder as reports loom.

Regards, Rod Linhart

Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Sunday 1st	First week of Advent
Monday 2nd	9.00am Year 4 morning prayer assembly
Tuesday 3rd	St Brendan-Shaw & Latrobe High Years 6-7 Orientation Day.
Friday 6th	10.30am Prep Nativity play for parents (school assembly hall) and morning tea. 9.00am - 10.30am Inquiring Minds 'Pre-Kinder' taster session (St Patrick's Kindergarten classroom) Cheree (Counsellor) visiting
Monday 9th	9.00am Prep Nativity play (school assembly hall) 1.30pm SRC Student Talent Show
Wed 11th	6.00pm - 7.30pm School Community Shared Meal and Get-Together— school grounds.
Thursday 12th	Year 6 excursion - Launceston
Friday 13th	Prep excursion - Wings Wildlife Park Cheree (Counsellor) visiting School Picnic - Classes visiting the pool

SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2019

Term 4: Monday 14th Oct - Wednesday 18th December.

SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2020

Term 1 Thursday 6th February - Thursday 9th April

Easter break Friday 10th April-Tuesday 14th April

Term 2 Mon 27th April - Friday 3rd July

Term 3 Mon 20th July 2020 - Friday 25th September 2020

Term 4 Mon 12th October 2020 - Thursday 17th Dec 2020

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SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT, W.E.S.T. and MERCY VALUES

WEST Award

Congratulations to Allie Hardimon (Year 5) who received a WEST certificate during Monday's morning assembly. We will continue to acknowledge those students who exhibit WEST (Welcoming, Encouraging; Sorry; Thankful) qualities and Mercy Values (Hospitality, Compassion, Mercy and Respect) by presenting awards at our Monday morning assemblies. Families are always most welcome to attend our weekly assemblies.

House Raffle Winners

Byrne House: Annabell Methorst

Dooley House: Lachlan Wallace

Martyn House: Allie Hardimon

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Meg Kelly for giving 100% towards all of her work. Great effort Meg!

Year 1: Ruby Warren for being a kind, caring and considerate class member

Year 2: Zarna Bakes for her diligent application and attitude to learning.

Year 3: Suraya Khan for the care taken with her Advent Art.

Year 4: Tully Valentine Smith for his creativity and his thoughtful contributions to discussions.

Year 5: Lachlan Wallace for his flexibility and encouraging attitude while adapting quickly to Year 5 at St Patrick's.

Year 6: Lottie Dowling for being a friendly, positive and hardworking class member.

LIBRARY (Mrs Carter) This is our **final week of school library** borrowing. We are asking for families to check at home and to please return all school library books next week. A note was sent home last week to families whose children are involved in levelled readers regarding borrowing levelled readers over the holidays - please inform your child's teacher if you would like your child to bring home levelled readers over the holidays and we will organise this for you.

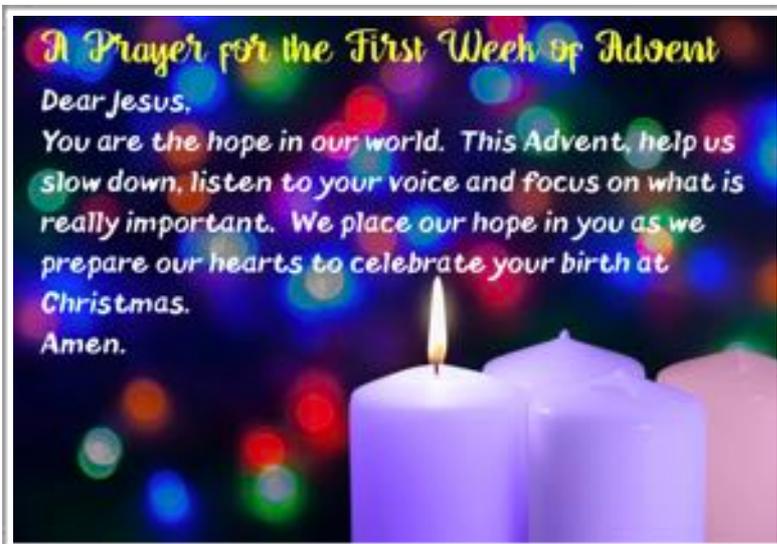
Sustainability

Students and staff are encouraged to place their fruit and vegetable scraps in the two clearly labelled bins, which are new additions to our playground. Pictured (right) are Zarna, Lulu, Rose, Melia and Kimberly, our young artists who are responsible for the eye-catching artworks that now adorn the recycling bins. These bins complement the classroom fruit and vegetable bins, which are emptied into these larger bins prior to being taken to our school garden for composting. Our Year 4 students collect the eggs from our school chickens and are packed in 6-egg containers and are available for sale for \$2.00 a half-dozen - please contact the school office if you would like some eggs.



School Community Shared Meal - Wednesday 11th December 6.00-7.30pm

Families are warmly invited to attend a shared meal in the school grounds on Wednesday 11th December from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. There will be a BBQ available and we will be offering free sausages and burgers (some chicken and veggie burgers will be available); families are asked to bring a salad that can be shared, and their own drinks. A free ice-cream in a cone will also be distributed at 7.00pm and some sports gear will be available. Please feel welcome to come along and relax in a friendly atmosphere, hopefully enjoying some new or familiar company in the lead into the holiday season.



Devonport Triathlon

Sincere thanks to Mrs Meech and Mrs Anthony for their support of our students who were competing in last Thursday's Devonport Triathlon. Congratulations to all participants, especially Monty Manion who achieved 1st place, and Vinnie Manion and Kyle Jordan for finishing 2nd in their events, and special thanks to the parents and adult family members who supported this event.

Care and Concern

Please feel welcome to be included in our Care and Concern Volunteer List - thank you to the many school community members who are already on this list and are assisting others: **Always please contact your child's teacher, the office staff or Mr Linhart if you feel we could offer support in any way to anyone in our school community in need.**

Contacting the school after hours: A reminder for after hours contact to ring the school number (6426 1626) to talk to or leave a message for Mr Linhart who will get back to you as promptly as time and circumstance permits.

School Picnic Day - Friday 13th December

Permission slips have been sent home with all students today. Please return these back to school by no later than Wednesday 11th December. School canteen will operate as normal this day.



International Day for People with Disabilities

December 3rd is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This celebration, created by the United Nations, seeks to celebrate the over one billion people worldwide living with some kind of disability. Disability is so natural, that this number equals 15% or more of the total population of the world. We don't celebrate disability, but the ability that is hidden within, and makes uniquely able, all of those who live with a disability.

A Prayer for all God's People

Let us pray for all God's people. For people who are blind and cannot see, and for those who can see but are blind to people around them.

Lord, in your mercy help us touch each other.

For people who move slowly because of accident, illness, or disability, and for those who move too fast to be aware of the world in which they live.

Lord, in your mercy help us work together.

For people who are deaf and cannot hear, and for those who can hear but who ignore the cries of others.

Lord, in your mercy help us respond to each other.

For people who learn slowly, for people who learn in different ways, and for people who learn quickly and easily but often choose ignorance.

Lord, in your mercy help us grow in your wisdom.

For people who have chronic illness for which there is no known cure or relief, and for people who live in unholy fear of developing a chronic illness.

Lord, in your mercy help us and heal us.

For families, friends, and caregivers who serve people with disabilities, and for those who feel awkward in their presence.

Lord, in your mercy help us see each other with your eyes.

For people who think they are worthless and beyond your love, and for people who think they don't need your love,

Lord, in your mercy help us accept your love.

For people who feel isolated by their disabilities, and for people who contribute to that sense of isolation.

Lord, in your mercy change our lives.

For all the people in your creation, that we may learn to respect each other and learn how to live together in your peace.

Lord, in your mercy bind us together.

Amen.



SRC Talent Show

Monday 9th December

During this week our SRCs are holding auditions for a whole school talent show to be held on Monday 9th December at 1:30 in the School Hall. Two acts from each class will make it through to the Talent Show Final. Parents who wish to attend should arrive at the hall by no later than 1:25pm on Monday 9th December.

Christmas Hamper Donations

for *Mini Vinnies*

This Christmas season, Mini Vinnies are helping Vinnies collect items for their annual Christmas hampers, that they prepare for families in need in our local area, at Christmas.

Vinnies are specifically looking for:

tinned peas, beans, corn and tomatoes

tinned tuna and ham

tinned fruit

long life milk

jellies

jam

water cordial

coffee

tea

biscuits

pasta sauces

pasta



Please bring in by
Friday 6th December

Mini Vinnies thanks you for your support!



Mini Vinnies



Helping to collect presents for
young boys and girls.

(please leave unwrapped)

Please bring in by
Friday 6th December



Wednesday

11th

December

***PLAIN CLOTHES DAY
FUNDRAISER***

to raise money for

a 'sister' Catholic school in the
recent bushfire affected areas

gold coin donation

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Included in previous newsletters was an order form for the Sunrise Bakery Christmas goodies bakery drive. Orders close on December 10th, delivery being December 17th. Extra copies of the order form will be available at the school office if anyone is needing extras for family, friends or workplaces.

REMINDERS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Pre-Kinder: final session this Friday 6th December.

St Patrick's Catholic School, Latrobe, is offering its final Pre-Kinder session this Friday 6th December. The usual 'Inquiring Minds' sessions that we offer on Fridays will recommence on Friday 13th December - the final Inquiring Minds for 2020. For further information please contact one of the school office staff, Mrs Stoessiger, Mrs Klug or Mr Linhart.

2020 Class Booklists and Payment Arrangement Forms

The 2020 class booklists and payment arrangement forms have been distributed to all families. Free delivery for books, cuts off on orders on or before the **8th December 2019.** After this date delivery is \$12.95. As in previous years, St Patrick's will be using the services of OfficeMax for booklist orders; this does not prevent families from purchasing any or all booklist items from other stationery outlets, however, it is **very important that families only purchase the specific writing books (ruled lines)** that the class teacher requests for 2020. **Please return 2020 payment arrangement forms prior to Wednesday 18th December.**

Kris Kindle - Information communicated in last week's Newsletter.

Sunday 1st December is the beginning of the season of Advent, the preparation for Christmas. Classes will be involved in Kris Kindle (Christ Child) this year. The class teachers will ensure each child is secretly allocated a classmate for whom a small present will be purchased - parents and their child will be informed. The present will be presented to the classmate during a gift giving ceremony that will be conducted on Wednesday 18th December, our final day of school for 2019. Please restrict the gift to approximately \$10.00 and parents are requested to help ensure any gift is thoughtfully chosen. Gifts should be brought to school prior to Wednesday 18th December to be left in the classroom, next to the class Christmas focus (Christmas tree, poster, display etc) to help facilitate the joyous anticipation that characterises this special Christian season. Children are also invited to help ensure that their Kris Kindle recipient receives daily messages of encouragement.

Such messages could be simple statements of affirmation or something that might brighten the person's day. Please discuss this with your child.



The Railton Squash Centre
is hosting the 2019

Railton Christmas Party



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Sunday 15th December

12 noon – 2pm

At the Railton Recreation & Community Centre

- ZORB BALLS
 - JUMPING CASTLE
 - GLITTER TATTOOS
 - FACE PAINTING
 - BALLOON TYING
 - ICE CREAM VAN FOR PURCHASES
 - FREE BBQ
- 'HOSTED BY THE RAILTON FIRE BRIGADE'



Santa will arrive
at 1:45

Many thanks to our Major Sponsors

The HUB - Sheffield



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